IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 2, 5, 9, 12-14, and 17 are amended herein. Claim 3 is cancelled. All pending claims are produced below. In addition, the status of each is also indicated below.

1. (Currently Amended) An electronic device, comprising:

a radio unit configured to communicate with a network;

at least one memory device configured to store application and system programs; and

a processing unit coupled to said radio unit and said at least one memory device, said processing unit configured to run the application and system programs;

wherein at least one of the application and system programs include a software enabled switch displayed on the device screen for enabling and disabling the radio unit while leaving the processing unit in an operation state, the device screen being configured to display information for a context associated with a state of the switch.

2. (Currently Amended) An electronic device comprising:

a radio unit configured to communicate with a network;

at least one memory device configured to store application and system programs; and

a processing unit couples to said radio unit and said at least one memory device, said processing unit configured to run the application and system programs;

wherein:

at least one of the application and system programs ~~include~~ includes a software enabled switch for enabling and disabling the radio unit;

at least one of said application and system programs is a program that utilizes the radio unit; and

at least one of said application and system programs comprises a notification program configured to notify a user ~~if~~ that the radio unit is disabled ~~upon~~ when invoking a program that is configured to utilize ~~utilizes~~ the radio unit and to display a software enabled switch, the software enabled switch further configured to either enable the radio unit for use by the program configured to utilize the radio unit or maintain the radio unit as disabled.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) The electronic device according to Claim 1, wherein:

said device further comprises a display screen; and

at least one of said system and application programs are configured to generate a graphical user interface on the display screen having at least one soft button programmed to enable and disable said radio device.

5. (Currently Amended) The electronic device according to Claim 4, wherein said graphical user interface is a GUI having a first soft button labeled ~~entitled~~ "*RADIO ON*," and a second soft button labeled "~~*Radio*~~ *RADIO OFF*," and an enablement status of the radio device is indicated by the corresponding soft button highlighted in one of bold, inverse video, flashing, or other indicators.

6. (Original) The electronic device according to Claim 1, further comprising a hard button programmed to enable and disable the radio device, wherein said hard button is a toggle switch that is activated by engaging the hard button for a predetermined length of time.

7. (Original) The electronic device according to Claim 6, wherein said hard button has at least one additional program invoked by pressing the hard button for a time period less than said predetermined length of time.

8. (Original) The electronic device according to Claim 6, wherein said predetermined length of time is approximately 1 second.

9. (Currently Amended) The electronic device according to Claim 1, wherein~~:~~ said software enabled switch ~~includes.~~ comprises:

a user interface with a drop down menu having user selectable options for Radio On, Radio Off, and Schedule, and

a program ~~programming~~ configured to implement an option selected by the user.

10. (Original) The electronic device according to Claim 1, wherein the application and system programs include a scheduling application that provides user modifiable start and stop times that indicate when the radio unit is enabled and disabled.

11. (Previously Presented) A notification mechanism for notifying a user of a status of an RF device in an RF capable device, wherein the RF capable device includes a processing unit for running applications and a user interface, said notification mechanism comprising:

a check mechanism configured to check an enablement status of the RF device;

a user interface mechanism configured to display a status of the RF device and a software enabled switch on a touch-sensitive screen, providing the user with an option to continue with the program requiring RF capabilities and automatically enable the RF device or discontinue the program requiring RF capabilities without enabling the RF device; and

an RF alarm mechanism configured to identify a program that is previously invoked that requires the RF capabilities of the RF capable device, wherein upon identifying the program, the RF alarm mechanism wakes the notification mechanism from a "sleep" mode and the notification mechanism checks the enablement status of the RF device using said check mechanism, and if the RF device is not enabled, the notifications mechanism invokes the user interface mechanism.

12. (Currently Amended) A method of notifying a user of an RF enablement status of a device having RF capabilities, comprising the steps of:

identifying the invocation of a mechanism requiring access to the RF capabilities;

determining the RF enablement status of the RF device;

if the RF device is not enabled:

prompting a user of the device if the mechanism is to be granted RF access by displaying a software enabled switch, and

retrieving a user input regarding whether RF access should be granted to the mechanism requiring RF access;

if the user input indicates the mechanism is to be granted RF access:

automatically enabling the RF device, and

allowing the mechanism requiring RF access to continue and access the RF device; and

if the user input indicates the mechanism should not be granted RF access, then, shutting down the mechanism requiring RF access without enabling the RF device.

13. (Currently Amended) The electronic device of Claim 1, wherein ~~An electronic device, comprising:~~

~~a radio unit;~~

~~at least one of an application and system program configured to access the radio unit;~~

~~a processing unit coupled to said radio unit and said at least one memory device, said processing unit configured to run the at least one application and system program;~~

~~a software enabled switch displayed on the device screen for enabling and disabling the radio unit while leaving the processing unit in an operational state; and~~

~~said~~ at least one of the application and system programs include ~~program includes~~ a prompting mechanism configured to display a prompt to a user to determine if the radio unit is to be enabled before enabling the radio unit.

14. (Currently Amended) The electronic device according to Claim 13, wherein:

said ~~at least one~~ application and system programs comprise ~~program includes~~ a notification mechanism to identify when the radio unit is ~~has been~~ enabled.

15. (Previously Presented) The electronic device according to Claim 14, wherein the notification mechanism comprises display of an airplane icon.

16. (Previously Presented) The electronic device according to Claim 13, further comprising a shutdown device configured to maintain the radio unit in a non enabled state, maintain the processing unit in an operational state, and shut down an application program that utilizes the radio unit upon a negative response to the prompt from the user.

17. (Currently Amended) The electronic device according to Claim 1, wherein the information for a context associated with a state of the switch further comprising a status display indicating enablement of the radio unit, and wherein the status display comprises an airplane icon.

18. (Previously Presented) The electronic device according to Claim 2, further comprising a status display indicating enablement of the radio unit, wherein the status display comprises an airplane icon.

19. (Previously Presented) The notification mechanism according to Claim 11, further comprising a display indicating enablement status of the radio unit, wherein the display comprises an airplane icon.

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 12, further comprising the step of displaying the enablement status of the RF device using an icon that comprises an airplane.